

21, who accepted the challenge of breaking the bars and the concrete ceiling of segregation in Little Rock, Arkansas, go a very long way to opening the doors of opportunity for those of us who followed. Though it was a secondary school and called upon the State of Arkansas to recognize the importance of educating all children, you can be assured it was a continuing journey. After the *Brown v. Topeka* Board of Education decision, this was just another milestone, if you will, to providing young people across America who were discriminated against for no other reason than for the color of their skin to have the doors of educational opportunity open to them.

The vision of Mr. SNYDER to put forward this coin in order to ensure that funding continues to protect this site goes a long way to allowing us to enjoy it and be, if you will, informed about it. Let me salute the Little Rock 9, as they are adults, and let me salute Mr. Ernie Green, who served in the United States Cabinet of President William Jefferson Clinton, for his ongoing civic leadership, along with his many, many other students who were part of the Little Rock 9.

If we are a people who fail to remember our history, Mr. Speaker, we are doomed to repeat the past. This is a forward-thinking legislative initiative. I salute Mr. SNYDER for his vision, and it is going to be exciting for the many school children around America to go and understand how tough it is to be able to fight against all odds, but how important it is to be able to accept the challenge and then win.

With that I ask my colleagues to join in the salute and support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the proposed legislation, the "Little Rock Central High School Desegregation 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act."

In September 1957, nearly half a century ago, nine African-American students entered Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. The students were forced to enter the school under the protection of the National Guard, which had been "federalized" by President Dwight David Eisenhower. So contentious was the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, which ruled that segregation in schools was unconstitutional, that Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus, had vowed to do everything in his power to prevent integration of Little Rock schools.

The nine students, now referred to as the "Little Rock Nine," were Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, Melba Patillo, Jefferson Thomas, Carlotta Walls, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray, Thelma Mothershed, and Minnijean Brown. The integration of these nine brave students, along with other heroes of the time like Rosa Parks, paved the way for the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. The event was perceived to be so important in forwarding the movement that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., attended the graduation of the Little Rock Nine from Little Rock Central High School in 1958.

Part of the collected revenue of the sale of this coin—a \$10 surcharge per coin—will be used for the protection and preservation of re-

sources and stories associated with the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site. I believe this effort is especially important. Segregation and discrimination was a dark period of our country's history, and we must retell the stories of our history so we may learn from the mistakes of our past.

Let us honor and celebrate this important historical event of half a century ago, but let us also remember there are still steps to be taken for racial equality. Let this coin remind us of the battles for freedom and equality of yesteryear, and the battles still being fought here and across the world today.

I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this resolution.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I do not have any further speakers. I congratulate Mr. SNYDER for his leadership on this legislation and Mr. RENZI, and their leadership on many other issues.

I yield back the balance of my time, and I urge the unanimous support of this important bill.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In summation, I do not deserve any credit for this. The credit really deserves to go to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER), the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and the delegation from Arkansas who really pulled together the House in a bipartisan fashion. I want to thank the gentleman for pulling together a community, too, down in Arkansas and allowing them to rally around the unique history of their land.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and concur in Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 358.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING HELEN SEWELL ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 633) honoring Helen Sewell on the occasion of her retirement from the House of Representatives and expressing the gratitude of the House for her many years of service.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 633

Whereas Helen Sewell, the proprietor of the concession stand in the Republican Cloak Room of the House of Representatives, through her long and devoted service to the House and its Members, has become a House institution in the minds and hearts of House Members;

Whereas Helen Sewell has worked at the counter in the Cloak Room since she was a teenager in the 1930's;

Whereas Helen Sewell's service to the House of Representatives is a continuation

of a family tradition, as her father began working in the Cloak Room 87 years ago;

Whereas Helen Sewell, as a result of her almost seven decades of service, has been present for some of the defining events in the Nation's history and the House's history, including the attack by Puerto Rican nationalists on March 1, 1954;

Whereas Helen Sewell has established personal relationships with many of the 20th century's most important Americans, including Presidents Ford, Nixon, and George H.W. Bush;

Whereas Helen Sewell's dedication to her work, and her careful attention to Members of the House, has provided both nourishment and friendship to Members of the House since the days of the Great Depression;

Whereas Helen Sewell has demonstrated extraordinary strength and endurance by working long and difficult hours past her 80th year;

Whereas Helen Sewell received the 1983 John W. McCormick Award of Excellence for her service to the Congress;

Whereas all who have served as Members in the United States House of Representatives, and who have had occasion to meet Helen Sewell, believe that her service to the House is a matter of historical importance and should be commemorated; and

Whereas Helen Sewell will retire officially from the House of Representatives on December 31, 2005: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives honors Helen Sewell on the occasion of her retirement and expresses its gratitude for her many years of service.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am not going to be lengthy in my comments because I know our ranking member is going to say something, and then I am going to yield a lot of time to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), who has asked for this resolution, and rightfully so to ask for it.

When I came to the House around 11 years ago, I guess, one of the first persons I ever met was Helen Sewell. And I soon found out she is probably one of the most important people, in fact, in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, a lot of the public would not be aware unless they had the chance to be here on the floor, but in back of the Chamber on one side is the Democrat Cloakroom and on the other side is the Republican Cloakroom. And of course I have been over in the Democrat Cloakroom. They have got good sandwiches over there, too, which you can buy. And in our Cloakroom on the Republican side, Helen runs a little counter and we call it Helen's Cafe. She makes sandwiches and of course the Members buy those sandwiches or soup, and she has been doing that for such a long time. She is just a fine woman who always has a pleasant smile, always has a good word constantly to say when she was here.

And as many people in the country know, if they watch C-SPAN of course,

that we will be voting sometimes till 2 and 3, in fact probably this morning we will be voting until 4 a.m. And if in fact we are here voting at 4 a.m. and if Helen were here working, she would be back there still providing people, you know, with pop and water and sandwiches and different things, because you cannot get out of the building at that time to go find something to eat and you are sitting here long hours. So she did that. She provided that nutrition for everybody.

But, again, she always did it with such a pleasant smile. Helen is a lovely woman who really gave, frankly, great service to her country by doing what she did; and for that, Helen, on behalf of the House, we think the world of you. We wish you the best in your retirement. And we send all our love to Helen.

□ 1545

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank my chairman for his words for this delightful woman who has served so admirably in this House.

I am very pleased to first acknowledge Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, whom Ms. Sewell is her constituent, and she has sent a note to say that because of a scheduled event here in the District, she is trying to arrive here in time to offer remarks honoring Ms. Helen Sewell, a longtime Washington, D.C. resident.

Mr. Speaker, this long-serving and dedicated staff of the House deserves recognition of the Members of this House and the public alike.

I would like to express my appreciation to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, my dear friend Mr. CURT WELDON, for providing the opportunity today to praise Helen Sewell for her long, loyal, and dutiful service. She deserves being singled out for recognition, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania has captured that in this resolution, and I am sure his words will also be reflective in that as we speak of her service to the House, not only her but her father. So certainly she and her father were and are House institutions.

Having served since she was 15 years old, she has served admirably following those 87 years of her father. We look at the woman when she was young and is still young in spirit to see that she has served almost 7 decades, has been here, has been here as it was said by the reader, during the attack of Puerto Rican nationalists on March 1 of 1957 and has had personal relationships with many persons and including Presidents Ford, Nixon, and George H. Walker Bush. She has provided much friendship and nourishment to the Members of this House and has had an extraordinary endurance and strength in her long-working years. I would like to say that she deserves this recognition. It is a fitting tribute, and it

speaks volumes of the type of institutional dedication that is all too hard to find in our world today.

However, she is a representative of others who labor in this House during the people's business by supporting us policymakers as we carry out our constitutional roles. So Ms. Sewell will be retiring on December 31 after many long-serving years. But there are other staffers who are retiring and who have served admirably as well. While we honor Ms. Sewell on the occasion of her retirement, let us also take this opportunity to thank and to honor the other House officers and staff who will follow her into retirement after serving this House for more than 30 years. Kudos to all of those great folks.

Mr. Speaker, all Members wish her good health and good fortune, and we want her to start a new chapter of her life.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), and I want to thank him for bringing this resolution to the floor. This was his idea on behalf of the House to do it, and we certainly appreciate it.

(Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I, first of all, want to thank the distinguished chairman and the ranking member for their outstanding support of this legislation, and this legislation is extremely important because it sends a signal not just to our colleagues but to the country that this is an institution where we all work together in a very compatible way.

Oftentimes people who watch C-SPAN and people who read about the Congress think that we are filled with adversity, that we do not get along, and nothing could be further from the truth.

This is a great institution. I have had the pleasure of serving here now 19 years. I am in my tenth term, and I have met some wonderful people, people on both sides of the aisle, people who may disagree on the issues but are strong and close friends when we get together when we are not in session or when we have events that are important for this country.

But what makes this institution work are the staff, the people who work behind the scenes, the people who take down the minutes of what is said, the clerks, the people who record, the people who run the C-SPAN camera system, the people who run this institution of the building itself, the Architect of the Capitol and the employees. And while many members of the public do not get to see behind the scenes, there are in fact two Cloakrooms, one for each side of the aisle. Yet we are certainly welcome to go into either Cloakroom anytime. There is no prohibition, and I am sure Helen has served

perhaps as many meals to Democrats as she has to Republicans.

And it is appropriate that we honor someone who has been with this institution for one-third of the history of this institution. Can we imagine that, Mr. Speaker? This woman served this country and this institution for a period of time that is equal to one-third of the history of this Nation and this institution. A woman who started following in her father's footsteps when she was a teenager, he would bring her down here to the Republican Cloakroom. Her father ran the Cloakroom where, during the hours that we were in session, Members can go back and take telephone calls. They can purchase a sandwich or a cup of soup. They can sit and chat. And Helen was always there for the past 71 years to provide an atmosphere of friendship, an atmosphere of positive reinforcement after Members of Congress from time to time would leave the well after having given lengthy speeches.

And she served during unbelievable times, starting with the Great Depression and serving in this institution when some of the great moments in our country's history were declared, when some of the greatest State of the Union speeches were made.

So she is a part and a legacy of what makes this institution great, and it is only appropriate that we honor her in this way because, in fact, Mr. Speaker, she served 71 years. There is no employee in the history of the Congress, including Members of the House or Senate, who has served more than Helen Sewell.

Helen could not be with us today, Mr. Speaker, but she is watching this proceeding from her bed at her retirement home. We have talked to Helen's family. We talked to her daughter, and they are watching with her.

And, Helen, we are not allowed to speak to you directly because that violates the rules of the House, but through the Speaker, I will say to you, Helen, that we wish you well. We are all thinking about you. Many of your friends are signing a card for you, and if you look behind me, these beautiful roses will be delivered to you later on today as a symbol of the love that all 1,500 Members of Congress that you have come in contact feel about your service.

Every Member of Congress has had a chance to interact with Helen Sewell. Think of that. Fifteen hundred Members of Congress that have come and gone over the past 71 years have interfaced with this lady.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, we keep these photographs in the back of the Cloakroom that I thought it might be appropriate to let our constituents see. Here is Helen Sewell, and it shows the love by Presidents of the United States who also served as former Members of Congress. We can see by the admiration that these Presidents have for Helen that they enjoyed her company, and we can see the high degree of respect that

they would pay to her when they frequently visited the House Chambers.

Now, because she worked for us I do not have any photographs of Democrat Presidents, but I know President Clinton was just as fond of Helen Sewell as were Republican Presidents, but it is just that she worked for our side.

This is another photograph of Helen with one of our dear Presidents.

So, Mr. Speaker, this resolution is a celebration of this institution. It is a celebration 1 week before Christmas, where we in fact are wrapping up the business of the people. But we take the time to honor those people who allow this institution to work, the people whom you do not see, the people who do not make the speeches, the people who do not go out and get their pictures on national TV and in the media, but the people whom really we rely on to allow us to be successful.

Helen, we thank you for your great support and the commitment you have made to America in support of our Congress.

Helen has three children: Jameille Thomas, Anthony Sewell, and Ava Fuller.

Ava, thank you for talking to me today and telling me about your mother.

Helen's father brought her to this institution, and we want to also recognize Helen's father. And, boy, did he have an appropriate name: Benjamin Franklin Jones. It was Helen's father who brought her to this institution 71 years ago to allow her to begin to work and love this institution that was such a critical part of her life.

Helen was also involved with her church. She was active with the Petworth United Methodist Church here in D.C. She was a trustee. She was a church historian. She was an active member of the Northwest Civic Association. Helen has nine grandkids, and I have been told she has too many great grandkids to number, that it is probably in the dozens and dozens.

And we also, Helen, have to tell a few secrets about you, because as these Members of Congress would go into the back Cloakroom to get sandwiches we would sometimes have to get Helen's attention.

Helen had a small TV set, one of these small 10-inch TV sets. And Helen's favorite preoccupation, when she was not waiting on Members of Congress, was watching the soaps. Helen was a national expert and historian on the soap operas. She could tell us any day of the week who was dating whom and which person was, in fact, in trouble with which other person.

Helen, we will preserve those memories of your activities in the Cloakroom and the fact that your famous word of hollering to us "next" will be remembered by all the Members of Congress that miss you today. But when they enter the Cloakroom and see that sign above it that says "Chez Helen," the House of Helen, that was in fact provided by our former colleague

Amo Houghton, we want you all to know, Helen, that we love you, that we miss you, that your retirement is a symbol of work that you have put forward and it is a symbol of how we in this institution have to from time to time stop and say "thank you," "thank you" to those people behind the scenes who make this Congress and this institution such an important part of America's history and legacy.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congresswoman very much for yielding me this time, and as usual we pay great respect and appreciation for her leadership on so many of these legislative initiatives that bring tribute and honor and respect to Americans throughout the Nation.

Let me thank the chairman of the House Administration Committee. We are always noting that this is a committee that serves the House, and we thank Mr. NEY for his able leadership on providing that outstanding service.

I thank Mr. WELDON for acknowledging that we may be out front but our existence is based upon the hard-working men and women that serve America by serving the United States Congress, both the House and the Senate.

And that is why I rise, because I had the pleasure in my tenure here to stick my head into the Republican Cloakroom. As my colleagues well know, Members meet and talk on many issues in our respective Cloakrooms, and we travel back and forth between the Cloakrooms. And I had the opportunity to meet Ms. Sewell and to watch her hold court, if you will, and preside.

We may be presiding here, Mr. Speaker. The Speaker may be in the Speaker's chair, but I can tell my colleagues, as I watched Helen Sewell work she was presiding. She knew all the Members. She knew what they liked and disliked. And I would say from her actions, she showed us that she truly loved and respected this institution.

Many of us are here because we love and respect the values of America and this institution. And Helen, through her family's legacy, Benjamin Franklin Jones, her father, showed that. Is it not amazing that this family has owned this institution, this business that has served in the Cloakroom on the Republican side, for 87 years and to note that she has been here during such challenging times as thousands of State of the Union addresses and, of course, the tragedy of the Puerto Rican nationalists attack on March 1, 1954. She is renowned and known to Presidents Presidents Ford, Nixon, and certainly President George H. W. Bush.

□ 1600

Also, I would say that being such a young person and coming to this institution, she is knowledgeable about

American history, certainly by listening to bits and pieces from Members. She has seen the war in World War II, the Vietnam War, certainly the Persian Gulf war, and certainly other incidences of history.

Helen Sewell received the 1983 John W. McCormick Award of Service for service to the Congress. As I indicated, this legislation indicates she will retire on December 31, 2005. So I think it is appropriate today that we stand here, among the other responsibilities we have, and be able to salute Helen Sewell on the occasion of her retirement and express our deepest gratitude.

It is important to thank those who serve this institution for their service and to also acknowledge that they love this institution. This resolution is an appropriate tribute to Helen Sewell and to her family, her grandchildren, and her children; and I thank you, Mr. WELDON and Mr. NEY and Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD for allowing the Members to come to the floor and pay their tributes. May God bless Helen Sewell, and God bless America.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me again thank Representative CURT WELDON for a great tribute to this outstanding woman. What a great Representative you are in bringing this to the floor today and to display all of the beautiful pictures that you have shown to us today in honor of this great lady.

Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives honors Ms. Sewell on the occasion of her retirement and expresses its gratitude for her many years of service. We thank you, Ms. Sewell.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST).

Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time, and I want to thank Mr. WELDON from Pennsylvania and all those who have come down here this afternoon to honor just a great lady, a wonderful person. For as long as this building stands, Helen's Cafe will be an intimate part of the U.S. Capitol.

Emerson said heroism is the quiet obedience to the secret impulse of character; and whenever we walked into Helen's Cafe, we had that sense. We could look at Helen and our stress would wash away with her smile, our anxiety about partisan politics or legislation or not getting something done would somehow become a little bit more eased.

Her remarks at the Members leaning up against that counter talking about this or talking about that would be, "Oh, Lord." I can still hear Helen saying "Oh, Lord." Or if you made a comment about her sandwiches were too expensive, of course they were always a fraction of the price of what they would be anywhere else, but if you said something like that, "Helen, this is a

little pricey, I only got a sandwich and a glass of water," she said "Oh, Lord."

Her stories about her family and her father and the perspective has been given here this afternoon. But can you imagine someone coming here while President Roosevelt was the President, Richard Nixon and Jack Kennedy were Members of Congress, and, it has already been spoken, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, conflicts around the world with the Middle East, the Persian Gulf war, right on up to the present conflict in Iraq.

Her advice to us, and we took it, was, "You need your rest. Rest yourself." Can you hear Helen saying that? "Rest yourself." Or if you had a sandwich and you did not want anything to drink she would go around and get you a glass of water. "You have to wash that down with something. It is too dry. You need something to drink. You need your nourishment." How many times did we hear Helen say that? "You need your nourishment. You work too hard."

Mr. Speaker, we still talk about Helen in Helen's Cafe. And Miss Helen, Pat is doing a great job. She is following your suit. She is set in Helen's Cafe because of your gentle, serene example.

By the way, I have to say this through the Speaker, if you are heading across the Bay Bridge on that church bus and you are going to do what you like to do in Delaware, you have a standing invitation to stop at my house to play 500 rummy. Now, we might throw out a few pennies there, but there is a standing invitation from all of us.

Helen, we wish you Merry Christmas, the best of holidays, and your character, that secret impulse that you left us, will linger here for all time.

Thank you, Curt.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am just going to conclude by thanking the Members for being here today, our ranking members. This could not have happened without Congresswoman JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD being here and taking her time to give tribute, and, of course, the other Members, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE and Congressman GILCREST. Especially, of course, I want to thank Congressman WELDON of Pennsylvania for doing this, for giving Helen the honor that she so deserves.

Obviously, from everything that we have heard today, I think the whole Nation can understand the feeling we have for Helen and how we miss her being here. Of course, when I conclude, I am going to ask for the RECORD to be kept open because Members are going to want to submit statements for the record to Helen to give her the honor she so deserves. So we wish Helen the best.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my very good friend, the chairman of

the House Administration Committee, for yielding me time.

I was just crossing a television between football games, getting ready to watch the Redskins beat the Cowboys in just a few minutes, and I caught this flower arrangement here, and then started to see these photographs of Helen up, and I said, My gosh, what is going on down here? And it brought back incredible memories for me.

As I know my colleagues on this side of the aisle know, I do not know if my colleagues on the other side of the aisle know, this is my 25th year here. I have served exactly half the amount of time that the Dean of the House, John Dingell, has served. So I have to tell about my first term.

In my first term, Helen Sewell was in an incredible ceremony that then Speaker Tip O'Neill presided over. She was honored in the Sam Rayburn Room right over there, and she was named the Employee of the Year for the U.S. Capitol. I do not know if it has been stated, but on one of the plaques we have right here out in the hallway, and we do not do this terribly often, we have not done it on an annual basis, and, in fact, after Helen Sewell received that reward, I think we went for a long period of time without honoring another employee of the year.

But I listened attentively as my friend from Maryland was talking about Helen making sure that people had enough food and drink in them to be sustained through these long hours of work. I will tell you as I listened to that, I was thinking, a number of us have been working very long hours, and I will tell you I take my hat off especially to the staff, for there has been literally no sleep for a lot of the staff members who are trying to get this very important work that we are proceeding with completed. But Helen would be here ensuring that everyone was very, very healthy; and she was an inspiration to all of us. I heard the bit about the soap operas and all that she followed so attentively.

But I thank my colleagues for recognizing Helen, because she was one of the first people I met when I came here a quarter century ago, and she could not have been any nicer to me then, and our thoughts and prayers are with her.

I look forward to seeing her cross that Bay Bridge and going to play cards with WAYNE GILCREST. I think that should be an interesting game when she stops by his house. But I thank my colleagues for recognizing Helen, who has been a great friend to so many of us.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am particularly pleased to join my colleagues in honoring Helen Sewell as she retires from the House of Representatives. Helen Sewell has honored our city as a longtime resident and the House by devoting extraordinary service under the particularly difficult hours and circumstances of service in the cloak room. Ms. Sewell's devotion to the House, to the people of the United States, and to the District, whom we service,

has been so great that she was still serving at 80 years old. Her loyalty to the House and its work has given vital support to Members of Congress and to the important business of the country.

As the House honors Ms. Sewell and wish her well, the residents of the District of Columbia join me in thanking Helen Sewell for dedicated service to the House of Representatives.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 633.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 633.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5861. A letter from the Administrator, Housing and Community Facilities Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Direct Single Family Housing Loans and Grants (RIN: 0575-AC54) received December 9, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5862. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bifenazate; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0276; FRL-7746-5] received December 15, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5863. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental